

Smog Certification for Diesel-Powered Vehicles

New Information

This memo rescinds VIN 2009-28 Smog Certification for Diesel-Powered Vehicles.

Policy

Effective January 1, 2010, smog emission inspections are required for diesel-powered vehicles 1998 **year-model** and newer, with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 14,000 pounds or less, for original and transfer applications. This includes vehicles manufactured in 1997 that have a 1998 year-model designation. Biennial smog inspections are required for these diesel-powered vehicles for renewal applications with a registration renewal date of April 30, 2010, or later.

Procedures

A smog check inspection is required:

<i>On a diesel-powered vehicle with a GVWR, of 14,000 pounds or less if the application is...</i>	<i>and is a 1998 year-model or newer with a ...</i>
an original transaction or a transfer application	due date on or after January 1, 2010.
a renewal application	VIN ending in an even number, with a due date on or after April 30, 2010.
a renewal application	VIN ending in an odd number or a letter, with a due date on or after January 1, 2011.
NOTE: A DMV employee may conduct a visual inspection of the Federal Certification Label to determine if a diesel-powered vehicle is exempt from smog requirements based on the GVWR.	

New vehicle dealers may certify on the New Vehicle Report of Sale (REG 397) that new diesel-powered vehicles with a GVWR of 14,000 pounds or less, meet emission requirements.

- The six-year rule that currently exempts gas-powered vehicles, six or less model-years old, from a biennial smog **is not** applicable to diesel-powered vehicles. A smog abatement fee will not be due on these vehicles. The smog inspection is **due**.
- The four-year rule that currently exempts gas-powered vehicles, four or less model-years old, from a transfer smog **is not** applicable to diesel-powered vehicles. A smog transfer fee will not be due on these vehicles. The smog inspection is **due**.

Exemptions:

The exemptions that are applicable to gas-powered vehicles apply to diesel-powered vehicles as follows:

- Vehicles located in nonbiennial counties.
- Family transfers.
- A smog for transfer within the past 90 days of the last smog inspection.

Vehicles that fail the smog check inspection may be eligible for the Consumer Assistance Program (CAP). Qualified consumers may be eligible for financial assistance for emission-related repairs, or they can choose to retire their high-polluting vehicle.

All questions regarding diesel-powered vehicle smog requirements should be referred to the Bureau of Automotive Repair (BAR) at 1-800-952-5210, or visit www.smogcheck.ca.gov.

Background

The law requires smog emission inspection of “diesel-powered” vehicles, 1998 **year-model** and newer, with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 14,000 pounds or less, for original registrations, transfers, and renewals. This includes vehicles manufactured in 1997 that have a 1998 year-model designation.

Reference

California Vehicle Code §§4000.1, 4000.2, 4000.3

California Health & Safety Code §44011

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online, at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via California DMV’s Automated E-mail Alert System in March 2011.

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.



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